

# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

85-00439

CHARLES A. GRADDICK  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ALABAMA

JUL 15 1985

JAMES R. SOLOMON, JR.  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
WILLIAM M. BEKURS, JR.  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
WALTER S. TURNER  
CHIEF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
JANIE NOBLES  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING  
64 NORTH UNION STREET  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130  
AREA (205) 834-5150

Hon. Ryan deGraffenried, Jr.  
State Senator 21st District  
Post Office Box 2263  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35403

Board of Registrars -  
Legislation

Act No. 85-591 does not negate  
or supersede Act No. 85-527 and  
Act No. 85-533.

Dear Senator deGraffenried:

Our office received an opinion request from you  
concerning Act No. 85-527, Act No. 85-533 and Act No. 85-591  
of the 1985 Regular Session. Your request is as follows:

These three Acts amended Section  
17-4-156, Code of Alabama 1975, relating  
to the meeting days of the various  
counties Boards of Registrars and passed  
the Legislature and were received by the  
Governor's office on May 9, 1985. Act  
Nos. 85-527 and 85-533 became law without  
the Governor's signature on May 17, 1985  
and Act No. 85-591 was signed by the  
Governor on May 20, 1985. It is clearly  
the legislative intent behind these Acts  
that, although they conflict somewhat  
with each other, none supersede the  
others.

Therefore, I would appreciate your  
opinion on the following questions:

Hon. Ryan deGraffenried, Jr.  
Page Two

1. Because Act No. 85-591 was signed into law at a later date than Acts No. 527 and 533, does it negate or supersede said Acts?

2. If the aforementioned question is answered in the affirmative, may the Tallapoosa County Board of Registrars meet a maximum of 120 days and may the Tuscaloosa County Board of Registrars continue to meet under a local law as is provided for in Section 17-4-156, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by Act No. 85-591?

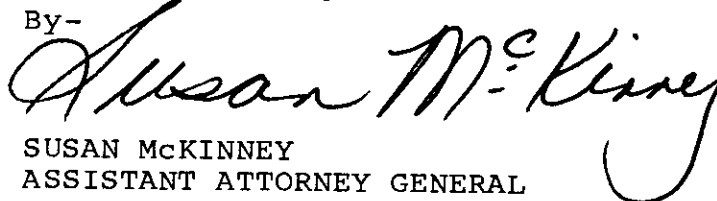
In answering your question, the Attorney General relies on the well-established rule of statutory construction which provides that sections of the Code which deal with the same subject matter are in pari materia and should be construed together to ascertain their meaning and intent. Loche v. Wheat, 350 So.2d 451 (Ala. 1977); Green v. Fairfield City Board of Education, 365 So.2d 1217 (Ala. Civ. App. 1978); Florence v. Williams, 439 So.2d 83 (Ala. 1983). In reviewing the above-mentioned statutes the Attorney General can only deduce that the legislative intent was to increase the days allocated to the Board of Registrars in Tuscaloosa County, Pike County and Tallapoosa County. In view of the foregoing, it is the opinion of the Attorney General that Act No. 85-591 does not negate or supersede Act Nos. 85-527 and 85-533.

I do hope I have adequately answered your inquiry. If, however, I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

CHARLES A. GRADDICK  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By-

  
SUSAN MCKINNEY  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

CAG:SMcK:fm